(c) what are the other places in hill districts of Kumaon region of Uttar Pradesh where LPG facilities are available at present and by when the remaining areas are likely to be provided with such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The requisite information is given below:

Name of distrbutor	No. of customers as on 30-6-1994	Waiting list as on 30-6-1994
Choudhari Gas Agency, Haldwani	7849	2603
Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam, Haldwani	13479	5264
Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam, Almora	8749	2069
Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam, Ranikhet	5190	738
Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam, Naintal	13143	1997

(b) As per the instructions, oil companies have cleared the entire waiting list as on 1-4-1993 in areas at 4500 ft. and above during 1993-94 and are required to clear 50 per cent of the waiting list as on 1-4-1993 in areas between 2000 ft. to 4499 ft. in 1993-94 and the remaining 50 per cent during 1994-95

(c) The surrounding areas of Kumaon Hills are being provided with LPG through outlets of Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam serving as extension points.

The other places in hill districts of Kumaon region where LPG facilities are available are Didihat, Kashipur, Rudrapur, Tanakpur, Khatima, Ramnagar, Lohaghat, Dharchula, Bageshwar, Pithoragarh, Kicha and Pantnagar.

Complaints Regarding Collection of Money by IOC Employees from LPG Dealers

2184. SHRIMATI CHANDRAKALA PANDEY:

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint had been lodged to IOC from the Eastern India L.P.G. Dealers Association in August, 1993 regarding coercoin by a section of employees in Haldia and Kalyani LPG Plant for forceful collection of contribution of Rs. 15,000/- from each dealer in conection with construction of a Nursing Home by some trust;

(b) whether any enquiry had been conducted by the Director (Marketing), IOC, to whom this complaint was lodged, if so, what are the findings of the enquiry;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that Chief Divisional Manager-cum-State level coordinator of IOC at Bhubaneswar Divisional Office had also circulated a D.O. letter to all contractors, dealers, distributors, transporters to liberally donate for this trust;

(e) whether the concerned trust is patronised by IOC, and

(f) if so, whether any approval from the Board of IOC had been obtained for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On inquiry, the allegations of coercion for forceful collection of money by IOC employees could not be established.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Policy on Export and Import of Naphtha

2185. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the New Delhi Edition of 'Indian Express' of 15th July, 1994, if so, what is the existing policy for import of Naphtha and the circumstances under which this policy had to be adopted;

(b) whether the Policy so adopted has helped the consuming industries of this material to have it at economically viable prices;

(c) whether it is a fact that the IOC, the canalizing agency for export of petroleum products including Naptha are exporting this material at a price lower than the international prices while the import by Indian companies are made at international price, resulting in net loss of foreign exchange to the country;

(d) whether Government have any plans to stop exports at lower prices and divert the surplus for domestic use at economically viable prices;

(e) if so, the time frame for adoption of this policy; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Under the existing EXIM Policy, the import of Naptha has been decanalised subject to the sale of return stream to oil refineries only by the importer on commercial terms.

(b) The consuming industries are now free to work out the economics and purchase Naptha either indigenously or import the same.

(c) to (f) Naptha is exported after meeting the domestic demand of the product at market related price. Data on price of private imports of Naptha is not available.

Import of Diesel

2186. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what quantum of diesel is imported in India and at what rate;

(b) what is the landed cost of diesel after import and what is the rate thereof in India; and

(c) what is the rate of diesel in other countries in the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The quantity and average rate at which diesel has been imported during 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as under:—

	(Quantity) MMT	(Average Rate) Rs./Tonne
1992-93 .	7.16	5155
1993-94. .	7.56	5522

The above rates are exclusive of duty. From 1-3-94 Customs duty @30 per cent plus 10 per cent CVD has been levied.

(b) The average landed cost of diesel during the first quarter of the current year has been Rs. 7264.92/MT against the domestic price (ex storage) inclusive of duty of Rs. 7609.70/MT.